

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for preparing a detergent particle characterized by the steps of:
  - i) providing a particle core characterized by a detergent active material;
  - ii) passing said particle core to a coating mixer;
  - iii) providing a coating solution of a water soluble, non-hydrating inorganic material to said coating mixer; and
  - iv) at least partially coating said particle core in said coating mixer to form a detergent particle.
2. The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said particle core is characterized by a blend of anionic surfactants and dry detergent ingredients.
3. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-2, wherein said blend of anionic surfactant and dry detergent ingredients is selected from the group consisting of detergent agglomerates, spray-dried particles, detergent flakes and mixtures thereof.
4. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-3, wherein said coating mixer is selected from the group consisting of low speed mixers, fluid bed mixers, and combinations thereof.
5. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-4 wherein said coating mixer is an fluid bed mixer.
6. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-5, wherein said water soluble, non-hydrating inorganic material is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal carbonate salts, alkali metal sulfate salts and mixtures thereof.
7. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-6, wherein said water soluble, non-hydrating inorganic material is the double salt  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4:\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  in a weight ratio of  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  to  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  of from 80:20 to 20:80.
8. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-7 wherein said step of providing said aqueous coating solution further is characterized by the step of spraying said coating solution into said coating mixer.

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9. The process as claimed in any of Claims 1-8 wherein said coating mixer is a fluidized bed having a disengagement plane and said coating solution is sprayed into said fluidized bed from above said disengagement plane.

10. A process for preparing a detergent particle characterized by the steps of:

- a) providing a surfactant material in the form of a paste or liquid and dry starting detergent materials;
- b) blending said surfactant material and said dry starting detergent materials to form a particle core;
- c) passing said particle core to a coating mixer;
- d) providing a coating solution of a water soluble, non-hydrating inorganic material to said coating mixer; and
- e) at least partially coating said particle core in said coating mixer to form a detergent particle.

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